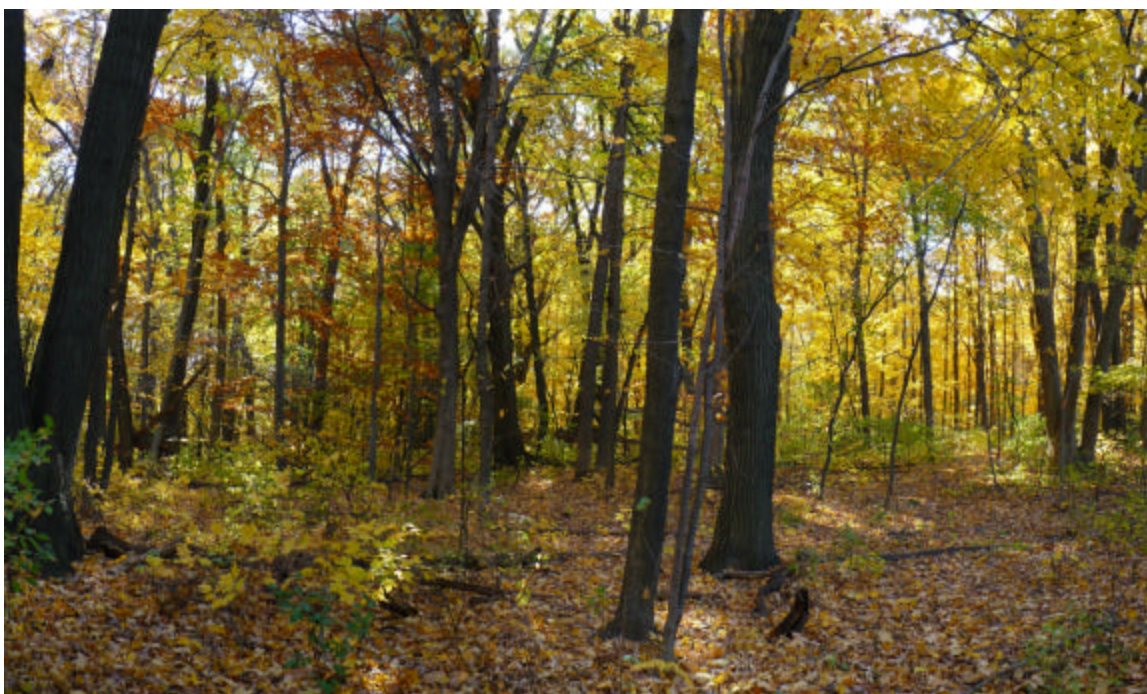




Trails and Natural Areas Crew 2007 Annual Report



Cudahy Nature Preserve State Natural Area: basswood (*Tilia Americana*), sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), and american beech (*Fagus Americana*)

Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture

Sue Black, Director

**Prepared by:
Ramsey Radakovich, Interim Natural Areas Manager
with
Guy D. Smith, Deputy Regional Manager**

Parks- Natural Areas

Franklin Park

- The Crew spent a good deal of time clearing invasive vegetation in restoration area #2 (NW savanna).
- This fall the Crew and a team of 12 Americorps NCCC worked to slow erosion by cribbing the northern drainage ditch. This so-called ditch becomes a rushing stream after rain events. We are in the process of developing long term plans to eliminate drain tiles in adjacent fields and eventually restore the fields back to their original state.



- The crew conducted herbicide treatments in restoration area #1 (SE corner)
- Vegetation Plot Monitoring RA #1
- Herbaceous planting various species from remains of greenhouse propagation
- Prescribed burn RA #1 and #2 spring
- Over seeding RA #1 and #2 with collected seed



Warnimont

- Invasive Removal (buckthorn and Honeysuckle) throughout the fen.

Cudahy Nature Preserve

- Invasive Removal
- UWM Service Learning mapping and trail cribbing

Kohl

- The Crew cleared the northern open area in coordination for the planting of 75 bareroot trees by SCA volunteers. The majority of the native trees planted were of the following species: red maple, red oak, and swamp white oak.
- We cut dogwood for live fascines, which were installed at Estabrook Park.



Lake- Locust Street Ravine

- Norway maple removal
- Garlic mustard treatment

- Mowing naturalized area
- Planting various herbaceous plants.
- Various weeding

Estabrook – east slope overlooking waterfall

- Basal bark herbicide treatment of buckthorn and honeysuckle
- Cribbing
- Garlic Mustard treatment
- Planting various species of native plants.

Rainbow Airport

- Woody removal and over-seeding
- Conducted a prescribed burn in eastern area
- Seed collection
- Planted native plugs.

CRP

- Woody removal
- Weed treatment
- Insure compliance

Bender

- Treatment of cut leaf teasel
- Prescribed burn and mowed prairie area on top of bluff

Beach Clean Up

- The lake front beach clean-up was conducted on July 5th. Bradford Beach, McKinley Beach, and South Shore Beach all enjoyed litter removal and vegetation removal from Parks staff, Milwaukee Conservation Leadership Corps members, and volunteers from the Milwaukee area.

Dineen

- Mapping and surveying for shoreline restoration

Doctors

- Norway Maple and Black Locust removal (opening canopy) logs utilized by SCA crews cribbing at Grant.

Grant

- Porcelain berry removal partnering with Americorps

Greenfield

- Planting natives in flower bed at Boathouse

Humboldt

- Mapping and surveying for shoreline restoration

King

- Preparing and treating for planting in circle
- Planting with various natives in circle partnering with SCA



Mitchell Blvd.

- Planted 8 Burr Oaks in designated woodlot area, utilizing volunteer trees from CRP field that otherwise would need to be removed.
- Invasive removal (buckthorn) with Americorps in fall.



Various

- Wisconsin DNR Tip line (Water Protection and reporting sign installation)
- EAB mapping, surveying in coordination with DATCP
- Seed collection with Americorps at Kettle Moraine

Parks – Trails

Hoyt

- 2.5 mile Mountain bike trail grand opening. The Metro Mountain Bikers, the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin, and Milwaukee County Parks partnered to develop this loop of Mountain Bike Trail within Hoyt Park. REI generously provided a grant through the Park People, Inc. to fund this trail as well as invasive plant removal throughout the Menomonee River Parkway.



Whitnall

- Alpha Trail clearing maintenance

Oak leaf

- General trail maintenance and clearing
- Annual sign inspection and updating
- Butler Gartner snake fence installation and monitoring at the Beloit Road Underpass project.
- Informational Kiosks- Eagle Scouts installed additional kiosks system wide. Trails Crew staff updated the maps and promotional information in the new and existing kiosks.

Granville Dog Park

- Trail widening and wood chipping existing trails.

Tasks

Education

- Prescribe burn training at The Aldo Leopold Legacy Center

Lagoon Treatment

- Veterans
- Washington
- Scout Lake
- Jacobus
- Humboldt
- Brown Deer

Prescribed Burns

- Bender
- Franklin
- Rainbow Airport

Partnerships

SCA

- Wehr - Prairie Days working with youth
- Grant – Cribbing, trail work, invasive removal
- Washington – Trail work, boardwalk construction. Building Aldo Leopold benches.
- Kohl – Constructed trail turnpikes, wood chipped trails, constructed steps, etc.
- McGovern – Construction of hiking trails, native plant installation.

Americorps

- East Bank Trail – vegetation clearance, litter pick-up, stairway clearance, handrail refurbishing, graffiti removal and mural creation.
- Franklin Park – Invasive removal, wash out cribbing, and stabilization.
- Rainbow Airport – planting native species.
- Native seed collection for prairie and oak savanna restoration.



Eagle Scouts

- Kiosk construction and installation
- Exterior Renovation of the Outpost at Whitnall Park
- Aldo Leopold benches
- Hiking trail in Falk Park and Sheridan Park

UWM Service Learning

- Cudahy Nature Preserve – mapping and trail cribbing
- Playground Mapping
- Ash Tree Survey

UWM Geography (3 week summer class)

- Trail counts
- Trail condition survey

DATCP

- Identified trees for EAB sampling

Groundwork Milwaukee

- Partnering in management of the KK River.

Park People

- Weedout: Spring and Fall

City of Milwaukee

- Bike rack installation in parks

Staff

Full Time

- Dep. Regional Manager
- Natural Areas Manager
- Forestry Worker In-charge
- Park Maintenance Worker II

Seasonal

- 5 people with time divided between Trails and Natural Areas and Playground Crew

Miscellaneous

- Impacted 28 Parks
- Paul Kortebein, Natural Areas Manager moved to Minnesota with his family and will be settling into a new job. In the interim, Ramsey Radakovich, has undertaken his responsibilities until the Natural Areas Coordinator position is filled.



Rainbow Airport Mesic Prairie: big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), sunflower (*Helianthus* spp.), and grey dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*)